From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>
To: <u>Blumenfeld, Jared</u>

Subject: RE: 12/30/13 Pima County Letter to Corps -- Rosemont Mitigation

Date: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 8:47:13 AM

Thank you Jared. I'll share with USFS and cc the Corps representatives who've been engaged in our discussions.

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]

Sent: Monday, January 06, 2014 5:33 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: FW: 12/30/13 Pima County Letter to Corps -- Rosemont Mitigation

From: Dunning, Connell

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 11:15 AM

To: Kopocis, Ken; Rader, Cliff

Cc: Bromm, Susan; Blumenfeld, Jared; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Johnson, Kathleen; Herrera, Angeles; Hanf, Lisa; Goforth, Kathleen; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Goldmann, Elizabeth; Leidy, Robert; Ryerson.Teddy; Hagler, Tom; Campbell, Rich; Marshall, Tom; Bromm, Susan; Martynowicz, Trina

Subject: 12/30/13 Pima County Letter to Corps -- Rosemont Mitigation

All –

For future reference and as referenced in below email:

Pima County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry sent a letter to Corps District Engineer Col. Kim Colloton criticizing the adequacy of Rosemont's proposed mitigation for impacts to aquatic resources.

The letter is attached.

Thanks, Connell

Connell Dunning
Environmental Review Office
US EPA Region IX, Pacific Southwest
75 Hawthorne St (CED-2), SF, CA 94105
dunning.connell@epa.gov

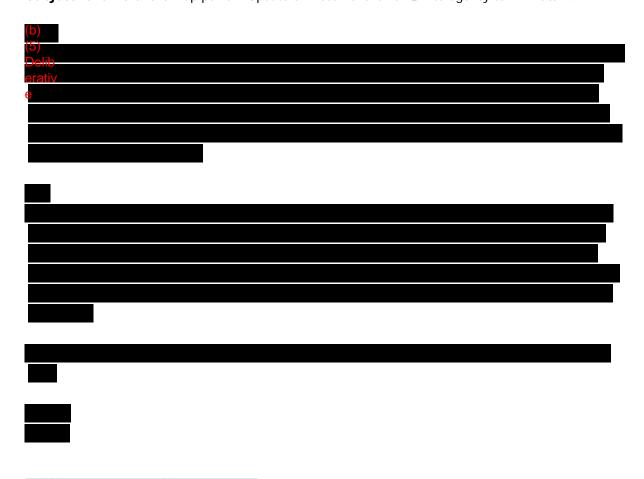
phone - 415-947-4161 fax- 415-947-8026

From: Dunning, Connell

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 11:07 AM

To: Kopocis, Ken; Rader, Cliff

Cc: Bromm, Susan; Blumenfeld, Jared; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Johnson, Kathleen; Herrera, Angeles; Hanf, Lisa; Goforth, Kathleen; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Goldmann, Elizabeth; Leidy, Robert; Ryerson. Teddy; Hagler, Tom; Campbell, Rich; Marshall, Tom; Bromm, Susan; Martynowicz, Trina **Subject:** One more follow up point -- Update on Rosemont for CEQ Interagency call --- 1/3/14



Connell Dunning
Environmental Review Office
US EPA Region IX, Pacific Southwest
75 Hawthorne St (CED-2), SF, CA 94105
dunning.connell@epa.gov
phone - 415-947-4161 fax- 415-947-8026

From: Dunning, Connell

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 9:30 AM

To: Kopocis, Ken; Rader, Cliff

Cc: Bromm, Susan; Blumenfeld, Jared; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Johnson, Kathleen; Herrera, Angeles;

Hanf, Lisa; Goforth, Kathleen; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Goldmann, Elizabeth; Leidy, Robert;

Ryerson.Teddy; Hagler, Tom; Campbell, Rich; Marshall, Tom; Bromm, Susan

Subject: RE: Update on Rosemont for CEQ Interagency call --- 1/3/14

Ken-

My understanding is that there have not been substantive discussions due to the holidays.

Regarding your question about whether or not we have come to an understanding about the scope of project impacts, I will send a second email with the status of that "ask" once I can confirm where

that stands.

Cliff – (b) (5) Deliberative

Thanks, Connell

Connell Dunning

Environmental Review Office

US EPA Region IX, Pacific Southwest

75 Hawthorne St (CED-2), SF, CA 94105

dunning.connell@epa.gov

phone - 415-947-4161 fax- 415-947-8026

From: Kopocis, Ken

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 6:14 AM

To: Rader, Cliff; Dunning, Connell

Cc: Bromm, Susan; Blumenfeld, Jared; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Johnson, Kathleen; Herrera, Angeles;

Hanf, Lisa; Goforth, Kathleen; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Goldmann, Elizabeth; Leidy, Robert;

 $Ryerson. Teddy; \ Hagler, \ Tom; \ Campbell, \ Rich; \ Marshall, \ Tom; \ Bromm, \ Susan$

Subject: RE: Update on Rosemont for CEQ Interagency call --- 1/3/14

Connell (or Cliff),

You stated that there have been no major new developments since 12/20. Is that because discussions have not led to any advances, or because there have not been discussions because of the holidays, or what is the reason?

Ken

From: Rader, Cliff

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 9:07 AM **To:** Dunning, Connell; Kopocis, Ken

Cc: Bromm, Susan; Blumenfeld, Jared; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Johnson, Kathleen; Herrera, Angeles;

Hanf, Lisa; Goforth, Kathleen; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Goldmann, Elizabeth; Leidy, Robert;

Ryerson.Teddy; Hagler, Tom; Campbell, Rich; Marshall, Tom; Bromm, Susan

Subject: RE: Update on Rosemont for CEQ Interagency call --- 1/3/14

Thanks Connell!

A few points...

(b) (5) Deliberative

(b) (5) Deliberative
Cliff Rader Director, NEPA Compliance Division 202-564-7159
From: Dunning, Connell Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 6:19 PM To: Kopocis, Ken
Cc: Bromm, Susan; Rader, Cliff; Blumenfeld, Jared; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Johnson, Kathleen; Herrera, Angeles; Hanf, Lisa; Goforth, Kathleen; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Goldmann, Elizabeth; Leidy, Robert; Ryerson.Teddy; Hagler, Tom; Campbell, Rich Subject: Update on Rosemont for CEQ Interagency call 1/3/14
Interagency Rosemont Call with CEQ – January 3 rd , 3:00pm EST (b) (6)
Ken – In preparation for the CEQ Interagency call on Rosemont Mine tomorrow, $1/3/14$, we have the following status update.
Purpose of Call: - Discuss whether or not to establish an end date for the referral period extension that the USFS has granted EPA.
Update: (b) (5) Deliberative

(b) (5)		
Deliber ative		
	_	

Let us know if you have any questions prior to tomorrow's call. We will join you then.
Connell Dunning
Acting NEPA Manager (Kathy Goforth returning 1/6/14)

Connell Dunning
Environmental Review Office
US EPA Region IX, Pacific Southwest
75 Hawthorne St (CED-2), SF, CA 94105
dunning.connell@epa.gov
phone - 415-947-4161 fax- 415-947-8026

From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>
To: <u>Goforth, Kathleen</u>

Cc: Blumenfeld, Jared; Diamond, Jane; Scott, Jeff; Kopocis, Ken; Bromm, Susan; Rader, Cliff; Brush, Jason; Jessop,

Carter; Herrera, Angeles; Hanf, Lisa; Johnson, Kathleen; Leidy, Robert; Evans, David; Goldmann, Elizabeth

Subject: RE: Next Steps and Agency views on Mitigation - Deliberative - pre-decisional RE: Rosemont Mine - Deferral?

Date: Friday, January 10, 2014 9:07:47 AM

A belated thank you for sending the letter and your helpful synopsis.

Horst Greczmiel
Associate Director for NEPA Oversight
Council on Environmental Quality
202-395-0827
HGreczmiel@ceq.eop.gov



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Goforth, Kathleen [mailto:Goforth.Kathleen@epa.gov]

Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 12:13 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Cc: Blumenfeld, Jared; Diamond, Jane; Scott, Jeff; Kopocis, Ken; Bromm, Susan; Rader, Cliff; Brush, Jason; Jessop, Carter; Herrera, Angeles; Hanf, Lisa; Johnson, Kathleen; Leidy, Robert; Evans, David; Coldmann, Elizabeth

Goldmann, Elizabeth

Subject: RE: Next Steps and Agency views on Mitigation - Deliberative - pre-decisional RE: Rosemont

Mine - Deferral?

Horst -

The views that we previously submitted (in your message below) continue to reflect EPA's perspective on the waters of the U.S. impacts of the proposed Rosemont Mine project and the deficiencies of the mitigation concepts proposed to date. As noted in those views, the proposed mine project would eliminate a largely undisturbed network of 18 linear miles of desert streams through direct fill, and cause groundwater drawdown impacting surface waters across approximately 64,000 acres of the Cienega Creek watershed. These secondary 404 impacts will result in the loss of hundreds of additional acres of riparian vegetation and the drying of perennial streams, according to the EIS.



Attached is a copy of the 12/30/13 letter from the Pima County Administrator to Colonel Colloton, which reinforces many of these views. The County controls the Pantano Dam parcel, which has been the focus of most mitigation credit discussions to date. Like EPA, the

County's letter emphasizes the inadequacy of small, isolated parcels to serve as compensatory mitigation for destruction of an "entire, intact, contiguous . . .ecoysystem," and suggests that many priority conservation parcels are potentially available and have not been evaluated. Although the County lists measures necessary for mitigation activities at Pantano to be possible (e.g., find actual water, secure the rights to it, provide conveyance, etc), EPA agrees that Pantano alone would be insufficient as a mitigation strategy. This 2-mile stretch of stream habitat would fail to replace the ecosystem services of the 18 miles being directly eliminated, and would leave mitigation for the significant secondary impacts of the discharges unaddressed.

Best wishes for the new year – -Kathy

From: Greczmiel, Horst [mailto:(b) (6)

Sent: Monday, December 23, 2013 7:46 AM

To: 'Cal Joyner (cjoyner@fs.fed.us)'; 'Jim Upchurch (jupchurch01@fs.fed.us)'; Kopocis, Ken; Blumenfeld, Jared; Bromm, Susan; Rader, Cliff; Goforth, Kathleen; 'Ann Acheson - CEQ (aacheson@fs.fed.us)'; 'Joe Carbone (jcarbone@fs.fed.us)'; 'Robert Bonnie (robert.bonnie@osec.usda.gov)'; 'Meryl Harrell (meryl.harrell@osec.usda.gov)'; 'Blaine, Marjorie E SPL'; 'Castanon, David J SPL'; Meg.E.Gaffney-Smith@usace.army.mil; 'Dave Sire (david sire@ios.doi.gov)'; 'Deborah Rawhouser (drawhous@blm.gov)'; 'Edwin Roberson'; Ann Acheson - CEQ (aacheson@fs.fed.us); Thomas Flanagan@nps.gov; David Cottingham (David Cottingham@fws.gov); Larry Bright (Larry_bright@fws.gov)

Cc: Guzy, Gary S.; Boots, Michael J.; Patel, Manisha

Subject: Next Steps and Agency views on Mitigation - Deliberative - pre-decisional RE: Rosemont Mine -

Deferral?

Importance: High

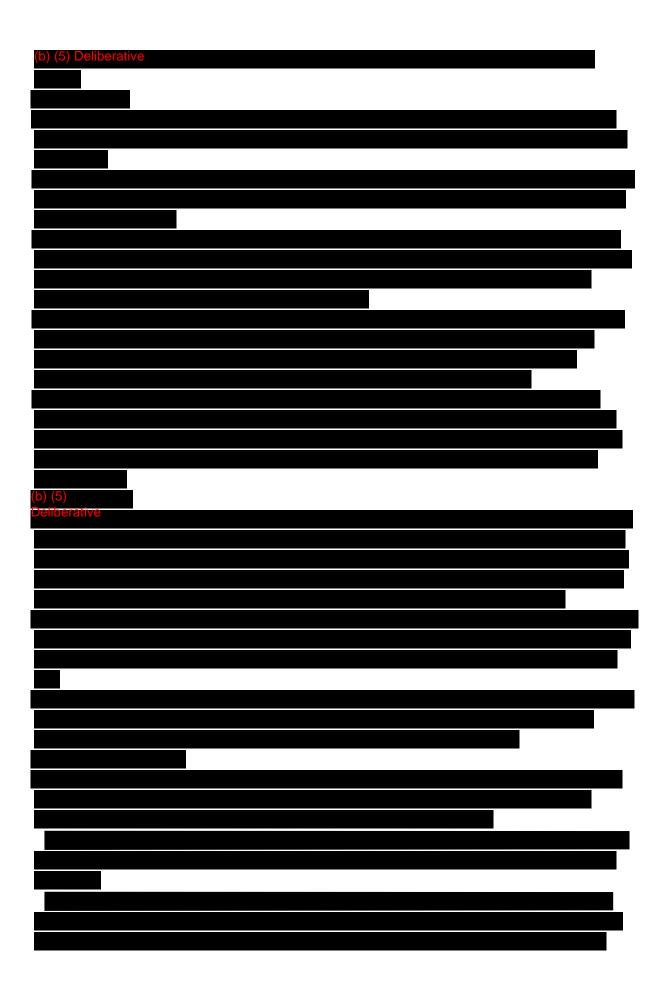
We will not have our weekly call this Friday and will resume with a call on January 3d with USFS, EPA, and the Corps – others may join if they wish. (b)(5) - deliberative

In order be productive, it is important that the conversation on the 3d be informed by a deliberative please revise or update the views previously expressed by noon on January 2d so that I can compile the comments and distribute them in advance of the Friday 3pm call.

The final comments on the views should be sent to me by close of business on the 7th (note that the due dates have been extended since our conversation last Friday – the new dates provide some additional time for those constrained by the holiday schedules). Our call on January 10th will be informed by the legal views developed during a call with the legal beagles on January 6th at 4pm eastern, as well as the mitigation views.

Here is a compilation of the current draft views:

(b) (5) Deliberative







#

Thank you all and have a safe, healthy, and joy-filled holiday!

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>

To: <u>Martynowicz, Trina</u>; <u>Goforth, Kathleen</u>

Cc: Ryerson.Teddy: Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane: Martynowicz, Trina; Johnson, Kathleen; Hanf, Lisa

Subject: RE: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 2:06:32 PM

I'm on:

(b) (6)

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality





Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Greczmiel, Horst

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 4:36 PM

To: 'Martynowicz, Trina' **Cc:** Ryerson.Teddy

Subject: RE: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

TY!

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality





Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Martynowicz, Trina [mailto:Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 4:18 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst Cc: Ryerson.Teddy

Subject: FW: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Importance: High

Hi Horst,

Attached is the draft itinerary for the Rosemont tour, which we would like to discuss with you during our call later today. Thank you and talk with you soon!

Trina Martynowicz Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne St. (ORA-1) San Francisco, CA 94105 415.972.3474

Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov

From: Blumenfeld, Jared

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:11 PM To: Martynowicz, Trina; Diamond, Jane

Subject: FW: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Importance: High

From: Greczmiel, Horst [mailto:

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:02 PM

To: Castanon, David J SPL; Cal Joyner (cjoyner@fs.fed.us); Jim Upchurch (jupchurch01@fs.fed.us);

Ryerson.Teddy

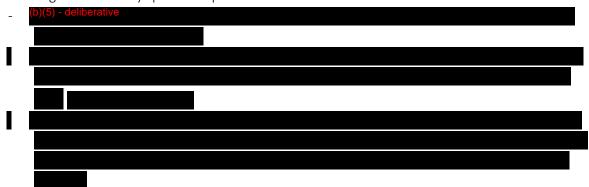
Cc: Blumenfeld, Jared; Kopocis, Ken; Dave Sire (david sire@ios.doi.gov)

Subject: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

Although it is an on-going process, Monday is fast approaching so I urge you to keep me in the loop on meeting schedule. My specific requests are:



Thank you all, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>
To: <u>Martynowicz, Trina</u>

Cc: Ryerson.Teddy; Blumenfeld, Jared
Subject: RE: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 3:37:02 PM

Fantastic – I'll focus on the other issues we discussed.

Horst Greczmiel

Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality

(b) (6)



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Martynowicz, Trina [mailto:Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 6:27 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: RE: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

FYI- Jared just got off the phone with Ray at BLM. Someone from BLM, probably their District Manager, will lead the tour of the Empire Ranch/LCNCA Wednesday morning! Great news! I'll update the itinerary accordingly.

Trina Martynowicz

Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator

U.S. EPA Region 9

75 Hawthorne St. (ORA-1)

San Francisco, CA 94105

415.972.3474

Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov

From: Greczmiel, Horst [mailto: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 2:06 PM **To:** Martynowicz, Trina; Goforth, Kathleen

Cc: Ryerson.Teddy; Scott, Jeff; Diamond, Jane; Martynowicz, Trina; Johnson, Kathleen; Hanf, Lisa

Subject: RE: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

I'm on:

(b) (6)

Horst Greczmiel
Associate Director for NEPA Oversight
Council on Environmental Quality

(b) (6)



From: Greczmiel, Horst

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 4:36 PM

To: 'Martynowicz, Trina' **Cc:** Ryerson.Teddy

Subject: RE: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

TY!

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



S Please

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Martynowicz, Trina [mailto:Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 4:18 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst **Cc:** Ryerson.Teddy

Subject: FW: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Importance: High

Hi Horst.

Attached is the draft itinerary for the Rosemont tour, which we would like to discuss with you during our call later today. Thank you and talk with you soon!

Trina Martynowicz
Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne St. (ORA-1)
San Francisco, CA 94105
415.972.3474

Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov

From: Blumenfeld, Jared

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:11 PM **To:** Martynowicz, Trina; Diamond, Jane **Subject:** FW: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Importance: High

From: Greczmiel, Horst [mailto: (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:02 PM

To: Castanon, David J SPL; Cal Joyner (cjoyner@fs.fed.us); Jim Upchurch (jupchurch01@fs.fed.us);

Ryerson.Teddy

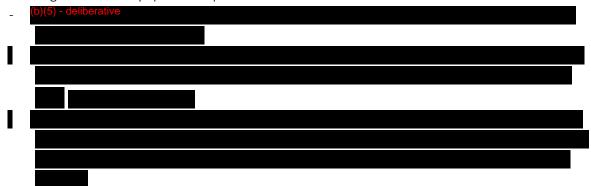
Cc: Blumenfeld, Jared; Kopocis, Ken; Dave Sire (david sire@ios.doi.gov)

Subject: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

Although it is an on-going process, Monday is fast approaching so I urge you to keep me in the loop on meeting schedule. My specific requests are:



Thank you all, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality





From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>
To: <u>Blumenfeld, Jared</u>

Subject: RE: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Date: Friday, January 03, 2014 1:35:42 PM

Yes, I'd love to connect to discuss the plans for the AZ visit. David from the Corps indicated on the call that the Corps would be joining in meetings on the 29th so I'm assuming your meeting/call went well and I'll want to connect on the plans for who/when on meetings. And, in keeping with my new year's resolution for more candor, to beg for \$ for the trip (I'll also be asking USFS to chip in). Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 4:15 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Sorry not to be able to participate. Hope it went well. Let me know if we still need to connect.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Greczmiel, Horst < (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 9:27:50 AM

To: Blumenfeld, Jared

Cc: Ryerson.Teddy; Gaudario, Abigail

Subject: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Jared,

Happy new year! Do you have time for a brief (15 min) call prior to today's 3pm call with USFS and the Corps/

Wanted to briefly discuss your meetings with the COL and plans for the trip at the end of the month. Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>
To: <u>Blumenfeld, Jared</u>

Subject: RE: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Date: Friday, January 03, 2014 1:41:52 PM

Let me know when is a good time for you either today or early next week. Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel
Associate Director for NEPA Oversight
Council on Environmental Quality



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 4:40 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Sounds good.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Greczmiel, Horst < (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 1:35:35 PM

To: Blumenfeld, Jared

Subject: RE: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Yes, I'd love to connect to discuss the plans for the AZ visit. David from the Corps indicated on the call that the Corps would be joining in meetings on the 29th so I'm assuming your meeting/call went well and I'll want to connect on the plans for who/when on meetings. And, in keeping with my new year's resolution for more candor, to beg for \$ for the trip (I'll also be asking USFS to chip in). Thanks. Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality





Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 4:15 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Sorry not to be able to participate. Hope it went well. Let me know if we still need to connect.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Greczmiel, Horst < (b) (6) (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 9:27:50 AM

To: Blumenfeld, Jared

Cc: Ryerson.Teddy; Gaudario, Abigail

Subject: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Jared,

Happy new year! Do you have time for a brief (15 min) call prior to today's 3pm call with USFS and the Corps/

Wanted to briefly discuss your meetings with the COL and plans for the trip at the end of the month. Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>
To: <u>Blumenfeld, Jared</u>

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Date: Friday, January 03, 2014 4:50:56 PM

Perfect - I'll call your cell. Have a good weekend.

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV] **Sent**: Friday, January 03, 2014 07:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Let's shoot for Monday - does 2 PST - 5 EST work for you?

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Greczmiel, Horst < (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 1:41:44 PM

To: Blumenfeld, Jared

Subject: RE: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Let me know when is a good time for you either today or early next week.

Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 4:40 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Sounds good.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Greczmiel, Horst < (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 1:35:35 PM

To: Blumenfeld, Jared

Subject: RE: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Yes, I'd love to connect to discuss the plans for the AZ visit. David from the Corps indicated on the

call that the Corps would be joining in meetings on the 29th so I'm assuming your meeting/call went well and I'll want to connect on the plans for who/when on meetings. And, in keeping with my new year's resolution for more candor, to beg for \$ for the trip (I'll also be asking USFS to chip in). Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel
Associate Director for NEPA Oversight
Council on Environmental Quality



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Blumenfeld, Jared [mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 4:15 PM

To: Greczmiel, Horst

Subject: Re: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Sorry not to be able to participate. Hope it went well. Let me know if we still need to connect.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Greczmiel, Horst <

Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 9:27:50 AM

To: Blumenfeld, Jared

Cc: Ryerson.Teddy; Gaudario, Abigail

Subject: Rosemont Call in Advance of the 3pm interagency call

Jared,

Happy new year! Do you have time for a brief (15 min) call prior to today's 3pm call with USFS and the Corps/

Wanted to briefly discuss your meetings with the COL and plans for the trip at the end of the month. Thanks, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>

To: "Cal Joyner (cjoyner@fs.fed.us)"; "Jim Upchurch (jupchurch01@fs.fed.us)"; Kopocis, Ken; Blumenfeld, Jared;

Bromm, Susan; Rader, Cliff; Goforth, Kathleen; "Ann Acheson - CEQ (aacheson@fs.fed.us)"; "Joe Carbone

(jcarbone@fs.fed.us)"; "Robert Bonnie (robert.bonnie@osec.usda.gov)"; "Meryl Harrell

(meryl.harrell@osec.usda.gov)"; "Blaine, Marjorie E SPL"; "Castanon, David J SPL"; Meg.E.Gaffney-Smith@usace.army.mil; Ann Acheson - CEQ (aacheson@fs.fed.us); tpatelweynand@fs.fed.us; "Dave Sire (david sire@ios.doi.gov)"; Thomas Flanagan@nps.gov; David Cottingham (David Cottingham@fws.gov); Larry

Bright (Larry bright@fws.gov); "Edwin Roberson"; "Deborah Rawhouser (drawhous@blm.gov)"

Cc:Boots, Michael J.; Patel, ManishaSubject:Reminder - Rosemont 3pm call todayDate:Friday, January 10, 2014 9:15:19 AM

Attachments: 2013 12 30 PimaCountyRosemontMitigationLettertoCorps.pdf

Reminder: We will be convening the 3pm call today. Please use: (b) (6)

For your information I am attaching a copy of the 12/30/13 letter from the Pima County

Administrator to the Corps (Colonel Colloton). The County controls the Pantano Dam parcel,

The County's letter emphasizes the

inadequacy of small, isolated parcels to serve as compensatory mitigation for destruction of an "entire, intact, contiguous . . .ecoysystem," and suggests that many priority conservation parcels are potentially available and have not been evaluated.

Regards, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality







COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
130 W. CONGRESS, FLOOR 10, TUCSON, AZ 85701-1317
(520) 724-8661 FAX (520) 724-8171

C.H. HUCKELBERRY County Administrator

December 30, 2013

Colonel Kim Colloton
District, Engineer, Los Angles District
US Army Corps of Engineers
P. O. Box 532711
Los Angeles, California 90053-2325

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

Dear Colonel Colloton:

Pima County and the Pima County Regional Flood Control District (RFCD) would like to take this opportunity to provide you with our position regarding the Rosemont Copper proposal for mitigating adverse impacts on Waters of the United States (WUS), ephemeral streams and riparian areas by their mining proposal. The proposed impacts are significant and substantial within the Cienega Basin Watershed, a watershed the County has attempted to conserve over the last three decades. Impacts to the watershed will come from the actual mining activities that will result in the direct impact to 5,431 acres of land that have inherent environment functions and ecosystem services. Indirect, offsite impacts from the mining activities include diversion of both surface water flows (impacting downstream resources) and groundwater subflows intercepted by the mining activities supporting wetlands and functions of even ephemeral WUS).¹

¹ Groundwater Model of the Santa Rita Rosemont Project Site Report, Pima County Regional Flood Control District, April 28, 2008; Clean Water Act Section 404 Comments, Pima County 2012; Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Comments, Pima County, 2011; Preliminary Administrative Final Environmental Impact Statement (PAFEIS) Comments, Pima County, August 14, 2013; Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), US Forest Service, December 2013).

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013 Page 2

Pima County and the RFCD Have Heavily Invested in Protecting the Cienega Basin Watershed

The County's concerns about the impacts from the Rosemont project arise from the uniqueness of the Cienega Basin Watershed and our efforts to protect it as a treasured natural resource. The uniqueness of the watershed comes from the fact that it supports large, low-elevation groundwater-dependent ecosystems in a county where depletion of groundwater has already caused the loss of the largest and most significant stream in southern Arizona, the Santa Cruz River. The Cienega Basin Watershed is remarkable for being nearly undeveloped and free of the exotic aquatic species that characterize the San Pedro River and other streams in southern Arizona. This watershed provides valuable habitat for 11 species that are either federally listed or proposed for listing. The scale of the impacts from the Rosemont mine and its position in the headwaters of the watershed threaten the most ecologically intact remnants of the Cienega Basin Watershed.

Community efforts to protect the watershed began 40 years ago, when the Pima County Board of Supervisors was first confronted with a proposal for a new satellite city (Attachment 1). The community debate about the proposal centered largely on water issues.

Recognizing the longstanding interest of citizens in Pima and Santa Cruz Counties for protecting natural and scenic values as well as water resources, Congress designated a significant portion of the watershed as the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area.

The County's acquisitions along the Cienega Creek began in 1980 with the purchase of what is now called the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve from Horizon Land Company. These initial acquisitions have been followed with the acquisition and development of the Cienega Valley Empire Ranch Reserve, including open space acquisitions of the Bar-V Ranch, Sands Ranch, Clyne Ranch, and Empirita Ranch and the expansion of Colossal Cave Mountain Park and the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve and other related acquisitions (Attachment 2). All of these acquisitions have been to protect the watershed basin and these unique groundwater-based stream ecosystems that provide a myriad of benefits to the natural and cultural fabric of our County.²

² Protecting Our Land, Water and Heritage, Pima County's Voter Supported Conservation Efforts, February 2011; Pima County DEIS comments, 2012.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013 Page 3

These open space acquisitions complement the protection of this watershed and are reported to federal authorities through our stormwater management [Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 402] program. Our efforts to monitor the water quality of Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon began in 1987 with water quality sampling, leading to an interagency petition in 1990 to protect Cienega Creek within the Natural Preserve under the State of Arizona's Outstanding Waters Program. This program imposes antidegradation standards under State water quality rules. That petition was granted, along with the Pima Association of Government's 2005 request to designate Davidson Canyon as an Outstanding Arizona Water pursuant to R18-11-112 of the Arizona Administrative Code. The designation of Davidson Canyon was sought to protect the high-quality water that Davidson provides to Cienega Creek, and ultimately Tucson, via springs and groundwater underflows. Today, the Pima Association of Governments' monitors a host of water-related indicators, including shallow groundwater and quarterly observations of surface flows along Davidson Canyon. As a result of these efforts and the habitat conservation planning we have done with US Fish and Wildlife Service, we know a great deal about the ecological values of this watershed; which, in turn, has informed our investments of over \$64 million to protect these critical and unique resources.

Rosemont Mining Proposal Will Adversely and Irreversibly Impact the Cienega Basin Watershed the County has Protected

Rosemont's mining proposal will have significant long-term and adverse impacts on the watershed and riparian systems within the Cienega Basin Watershed, both from the direct activity of mining where WUS, ephemeral streams and riparian areas will be completed destroyed. By our estimate, approximately 100 miles³ of stream channels will be directly destroyed by the mining activity (see Attachment 3). The 404(b)(1) Alternatives Analysis relies on a much smaller subset of potentially jurisdictional waters for its analysis. Impacts to WUS include dredging to obtain "soils" for future reclamation, and excavation and filling to create the mine. Furthermore, due to the upper watershed location of the mining activity, there will be long-term and continuing adverse and indirect impacts due to the loss of surface water flows because of topographical alteration of the upper watershed, various diversion channels, and interception of groundwater subflows by the mine pit excavation itself and by dewatering.

These impacts must be fully mitigated by Rosemont in a meaningful, measurable and verifiable manner.

³Clean Water Act Section 404 Comments on #SPL-2008-00816-MB, Pima County, 2012.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 4

US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November 7, 2013 Letter Expresses Real and Definable Concerns that Have Not Been Factually Disputed

Pima County and the RFCD share many of the same concerns over the mitigation proposal as those expressed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in their November 7, 2013 letter. Among the many concerns raised by the EPA was the fact that Rosemont must demonstrate clear compliance with the Clean Water Act, and neither the EIS nor the scant mitigation proposal contained in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) demonstrate such compliance. They failed to quantify certain upstream and downstream impacts and underestimated impacts to groundwater-supported ephemeral and intermittent streams and springs.

During scoping in 2008, Pima County identified the potential for the mine to cause significant degradation of aquatic ecosystems, including Empire Gulch, various springs, Davidson Canyon and upper and lower Cienega Creek. We provided detailed outlines of hydrologic, hydraulic and geomorphic studies needed to assess impacts to the Outstanding Waters of Davidson Canyon, studies that were never conducted and which would have reduced the uncertainties federal and state agencies faced later in their effects analyses. We also provided detailed reviews of the mine's groundwater and surface water models and provided our own groundwater model, which was reviewed by US Geological Survey staff. 5

We completely agree with the EPA that the Sonoita Creek and Fullerton Ranch are inappropriate compensatory mitigation for impacts to WUS, principally because neither Fullerton Ranch nor Sonoita Creek are in the same watershed. In 2008, the Corps adopted a watershed approach to mitigation. In 2009, Pima County asked that mitigation be located close to the area of effects, adjacent to other protected land, and protected in perpetuity with legal instruments that secure mineral, as well as water, resources. This same letter provided an extensive list of sites located within the watershed that might offer permittee-based mitigation.

⁴April 29, 2008 Scoping Letter to Ms. Bev Everson, Forest Geologist, from C.H. Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator, Attachment 10.

⁵2008 Groundwater Model; Pima County DEIS Comments; Pima County PAFEIS comments; Pima County Section 404 Comments; Pima County February 17, 2010 Letter to Forest Supervisor Jeanine Derby.

⁶ December 23, 2009, Letter to Jeanine Derby from C.H. Huckelberry.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 5

In addition, the Interagency Review Team, of which Pima County is a member, has yet to see or approve 1) an appropriate functional assessment that describes the aquatic resource values associated with impacts and mitigation or 2) an assessment of the relationship between the impacts and the mitigation that is appropriate to the scope and degree of the impacts and which are reasonably enforceable.

Furthermore, neither the Corps nor the Forest Service, as the lead agency, has adequately considered interrelated tribal issues. We agree with the Tohono O'odham Nation that there have been ineffective consultations with Native American communities regarding the impact of the proposal on traditional cultural places, including streams and springs. Given the close locational association of historic properties, archeological sites and traditional cultural places to WUS, any disruption or destruction of these Waters will disproportionately destroy these cultural resources, which are located where the water either is or was. Federal agencies, in their conduct of this process, have failed to provide opportunities for meaningful involvement of tribal communities. The mitigation plan, as currently described, is unlikely to relieve the disproportionality of the impacts to the Tohono O'odham Nation or other consulting tribes.

Rosemont Proposed Mitigation is Seriously Inadequate

The Rosemont proposal to mitigate the adverse effects of their direct and indirect impacts on WUS, ephemeral streams and riparian areas, as well as seeps and springs, is substantially inadequate. Rosemont proposes three areas for mitigation credit: 1) the Pantano Dam, including the transfer of 1,122 acre feet of appurtenance surface water rights and the diversion facilities in a nearby groundwater well; 2) Sonoita Creek Ranch; and 3) Davidson Canyon preservation lands. Our comments on each of these proposals appear below.

Pantano Dam

While this proposal will have a positive effect on the ecosystem, it will not produce the desired mitigation, primarily because the appurtenant surface water right is not as advertised at 1,122 acre feet; it is more realistically no more than 360 acre feet per year and declining. As part of our review of the Rosemont EIS and concurrent with development of the possible Cienega ILF, Pima County and RFCD have questioned the availability of wet water to the site. Given the

⁷August 14, 2013 PAFEIS Comments; RFCD Letter to Marjorie Blaine, July 31, 2013.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013 Page 6

RFCD have questioned the availability of wet water to the site. Given the specific reductions in flows that have been observed at the site and the trend toward reduced flows due to climate change and other factors such as exempt well drilling, I do not see sufficient wet water to guarantee the long-term success of a project intended to restore lost aquatic functions.

Clearly, an undependable surface water flow of approximately 360 acre feet per year is not the same as a legally possible annual flow of 1,122 acre feet. This element of the Rosemont mitigation proposal fails because it cannot be relied upon to produce the necessary mitigation credits due to an unpredictable and insufficient long-term water supply.

Sonoita Creek Ranch

Rosemont also proposes to mitigate impacts through the purchase of the Sonoita Creek Ranch. This property lies outside the Cienega Basin and violates the County's desired principle of having mitigation occur in the watershed where the damage occurs. Therefore, the Sonoita Creek Ranch should be completely discounted in providing mitigation for the Rosemont impacts. Sonoita Creek is also located in close proximity to other mines the Forest Service is considering in the Patagonia Mountains. It would be more appropriate for this site to serve to mitigate effects of those mines that are located in the Sonoita Creek Watershed, assuming that Sonoita Creek Ranch would remain unaffected.

Davidson Canyon Preservation and Enhancement

The preservation of small, isolated parcels, even within the Cienega Basin Watershed, will provide little overall mitigation. Well-accepted scientific theory in ecosystem preservation discounts the value of small, isolated conservation parcels for either conserving unique ecosystems or in mitigating for their losses.¹⁰ Rosemont proposes to destroy or deny access to an entire, intact, contiguous

⁷August 14, 2013 PAFEIS Comments; RFCD Letter to Marjorie Blaine, July 31, 2013.

⁸ Water Resource Trends in the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve, Pima County, August 2013.
⁹FEIS, US Forest Service, December 2013.

¹⁰Diamond, J.M. 1975. The island dilemma: Lessons of modern biogeographic studies for the design of natural reserves. Biological Conservation 7:129-146; Wilcox, B.A., and D.D. Murphy. 1985. Conservation strategy: effects of fragmentation on extinction. American Naturalist 125:879-887.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 7

Santa Rita Unit of the Coronado National Forest, greatly diminishing the connected ecosystem value of this portion of the Forest. The loss of these resources, including those subject to wetland regulations, cannot be compensated for by a few small and isolated parcels within the Cienega Basin Watershed. The Davidson Canyon preservation lands do not provide meaningful mitigation by themselves. Those parcels most proximal to Rosemont will be most degraded by the changes in the watershed, and other indirect impacts.

It would appear the lands acquired and/or offered by Rosemont as mitigation are simply lands of acquisition by convenience rather than lands of true mitigation. Rosemont, in their letter of December 13, 2013, laments the lack of available mitigation opportunities in the Barrel Canyon/Davidson Canyon Watershed; and in doing so, demonstrates they both fail to understand the watershed or acknowledge the efforts of both the County and RFCD, as well as the US Bureau of Land Management, in conserving the resources within the Cienega Basin Watershed over the last 30 years. If land are "not available" for Rosemont's mitigation, it is because previous actions have conserved them; and it is these same conserved lands that are now threatened by Rosemont's actions.

In summary, all three mitigation strategies are less than adequate compensation. The County respectfully requests that the principle of mitigation in the watershed of impact be adhered to by federal approval agencies because of the County's significant monetary and time investment in conserving the unique water-based resources of the Cienega Basin Watershed.

Significant lands are still available in the watershed for acquisition and restoration. For instance, staff confirms that Andrada Ranch is still for sale (see Attachment 2). It abuts the Rosemont and Bar V Ranches, including over 16,000 acres of State grazing lease and 271 acres of fee-owned land centered on over 4,000 linear feet of Davidson Canyon upstream of the Outstanding Waters reach. It also includes water rights to a perennial or near-perennial stock pond and a perennial spring located on fee-owned land that has wetland vegetation and restoration potential.

A horse ranch along Gardner Canyon was also for sale during the last year and may still be available. Gardner Canyon is an important tributary to Cienega Creek located just south of the Pima County line.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 8

In addition, there are over 100,000 acres of unconserved State Trust lands within the Cienega Creek Watershed that could be available for mitigation. Pima County has successfully purchased almost 3,000 acres of State Trust land since 2009. In 2012, mining company Freeport McMoRan successfully purchased over 8,000 acres of State Trust land to construct a new tailings pile and mitigate its effects at its Sierrita Mine west of the proposed Rosemont Mine. These purchases demonstrate that the purchase of State Trust land for mitigation is plausible, yet Rosemont has not pursued this option.

Pantano or Cienega In-lieu Fee Project May Not be the Best Compliance Vehicle for Rosemont

The RFCD, as an in-lieu fee (ILF) provider under an approved agreement with the Corps, has been working to develop a project located in the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve (Pantano Dam) that would improve the conditions of the aquatic resources there in conjunction with acquisitions or funds that would be made available by Rosemont Copper.

A number of outstanding, interrelated issues have arisen from consideration of the Pantano ILF project, as well as the nature of the Rosemont project and the roles of the regulatory agencies, which include the County, RFCD, Corps, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. I would appreciate further discussions with you and your staff on these topics.

1.

Many of the Rosemont proposals for the Pantano Dam are tangible actions that can help assure the water supply, but they cannot manufacture water for a stressed watershed. No one has been able to answer the question of whether the planned mitigation is actually possible given the hydrologic reality facing this watershed.

Another essential element of the decision relates to the liability that RFCD may have, if, for any reason, the ILF mitigation bank does not produce or sustain the riparian restoration required. Obviously, the County and RFCD cannot and will not be held financially liable for Rosemont mitigation miscalculations. Please note that an ILF project here would require approval. This approval has not been granted or even scheduled, as there is no final plan available for consideration.

As you are aware, every compensatory mitigation project has an ecological risk and a cost liability associated with the risk. These risks may be managed by the use of mitigation ratios, financial requirements such as performance bonds, or advanced mitigation. Some

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 9

form of financial assurance is an option to manage the risk for compensatory mitigation by requiring the permittee to provide collateral to the Corps and/or ILF provider. Ultimately, it is the permittee that must be made responsible. For mining, the potential environmental impacts are significant; and the temporal lag is long between when the impacts occur and when compensatory mitigation is deemed successful. Therefore, the ecological risks are very high. As a potential ILF within an Arizona Mining District, we would be interested in knowing how other Corps District Offices have handled ILF programs for mining, such as coal mining in Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia.

Through the ILF program, I remain committed to ensure that those causing the impacts are required to pay the full cost of same and are not subsidized in any way by RFCD taxpayers. Rosemont, not Pima County, must remain financially responsible for assuring the success of this project.¹¹ If this is not possible within the framework of the ILF and the Corps' regulatory timeframes, then we can either explore some type of contractual arrangement for permittee-responsible mitigation on County or RFCD land or abandon the matter entirely.

At this point, I strongly prefer permittee responsible mitigation under the legal authority of the Corps.

Meaningful Mitigation Relies on a Dependable Water Supply

It has become clear to me that an independent supply of water is needed to avoid placing the burden of long-term risks of failure upon Pima County. Additional water supply from outside the Cienega Basin is needed to assure that sufficient wet water is available in perpetuity.

Merely pumping wells near the stream would be "robbing Peter to pay Paul" and could impair the health of the stream and riparian forest above the dam. Other potential sources of water might include Central Arizona Project water or effluent purchased from the US Bureau of Reclamation wheeled through the Tucson Water interconnection to Vail or delivered through an extension of Tucson's reclaimed line (see Attachment 2).

An additional, independent water supply would also reduce the short-term implementation risks and potential temporal losses of aquatic resource functions associated with issues relating to surface water rights. The proposed ILF project depends on water spreading to

¹¹ Memorandum to the Pima County Board of Supervisors, August 13, 2013.

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 10

generate WUS credits outside the main channel of Cienega Creek. Such water spreading would require a sever-and-transfer, and this process could be delayed or otherwise impaired by others. Also, an earlier priority water right in the ILF project area has recently been identified. The status of this right is not yet resolved.

Another key consideration for Pima County is that all of the area in question along Cienega Creek has been identified as mitigation for our upcoming Section 10(a)(1)(B) permit (Section 10) from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Unfortunately, the regional habitat conservation planning in Pima County has not been well-integrated into federal evaluations for the Rosemont project. A copy of the Pima County Multi-species Conservation Plan (MSCP) and DEIS was provided to all involved federal agencies for review in late 2012. We are still waiting for the federal agencies to sort out the overlap between the MSCP and ILF programs. If parts of the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve might be rendered ineligible for MSCP species credit by the ILF project, the taxpayers must not bear the cost, and replacement habitat must be acquired.

Also unclear to me is the degree to which the Cienega or Pantano ILF projects might be vulnerable to re-consultation and additional National Environmental Policy Act review due to the premature release of the Rosemont FEIS, which contained very vague descriptions of all of the proposed WUS mitigation projects. Would RFCD's execution of the Pantano ILF project be subject to additional federal requirements, liabilities or delays because the FEIS and Biological Opinion relied on vague descriptions? These are issues that must be resolved prior to any final Rosemont approvals or permitting.

A Sustainable Mitigation Strategy for Rosemont Impacts and Our View of Measureable, Meaningful and Verifiable Mitigation

I recommend that Rosemont's CWA Section 404 permit be denied unless Rosemont commits to the following mitigation:

- Purchase and convey the Pantano Dam site to the RFCD;
- Purchase and convey 1,122 acre feet per year of senior surface water rights to the RFCD;
- Purchase and convey the distribution pipeline between the Pantano Dam and the Lago del Oro Golf Course to the RFCD;
- Purchase and convey Water Production Well Registration Number 602949, owned by Vail Water Company, to the RFCD;

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

December 30, 2013

Page 11

- Construct and convey to the RFCD a reclaimed water extension line from Drexel Road at the Pantano Wash approximately 11 miles to the Pantano Dam of sufficient size to deliver approximately 750 acre feet per year of reclaimed water to the Pantano Dam site;
- Purchase from the Bureau of Reclamation or any other reclaimed water owner and deliver approximately 750 acre feet annually of reclaimed water to the Pantano Dam site to the RFCD;
- Purchase and convey the Andrada Ranch, consisting of 276 fee-owned acres along Davidson Canyon, to the RFCD, or other suitable and targeted compensatory mitigation lands as identified in our December 23, 2009 letter to Forest Supervisor Jeanine Derby.

Under this mitigation proposal, Rosemont would be performing permittee-responsible mitigation and would remain financially responsible for successful mitigation as determined by the Corps and concurred with by the RFCD. The RFCD would enter into an appropriate operating agreement with the Corps to carry out the mitigation required if such is necessary.

The Rosemont compensatory mitigation proposal is inadequate and fails to provide measurable and meaningful reduction of impacts because there are more impacts to WUS than have been analyzed, and the offsite impacts are connected and profound.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to consider the County and RFCD perspective on this issue, and I would be happy to discuss this matter with you in person during your upcoming visit to Pima County in January 2014.

Sincerely.

C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/mjk

Attachments

Re: US Environmental Protection Agency Region IX November, 2013 Letter Regarding Its Analysis of the Updated Draft Clean Water Act Section 404 Compensatory Mitigation Proposal for Rosemont Mine, Pima County, Arizona and the December 13, 2013 Rosemont Copper Letter Regarding the Same Subject

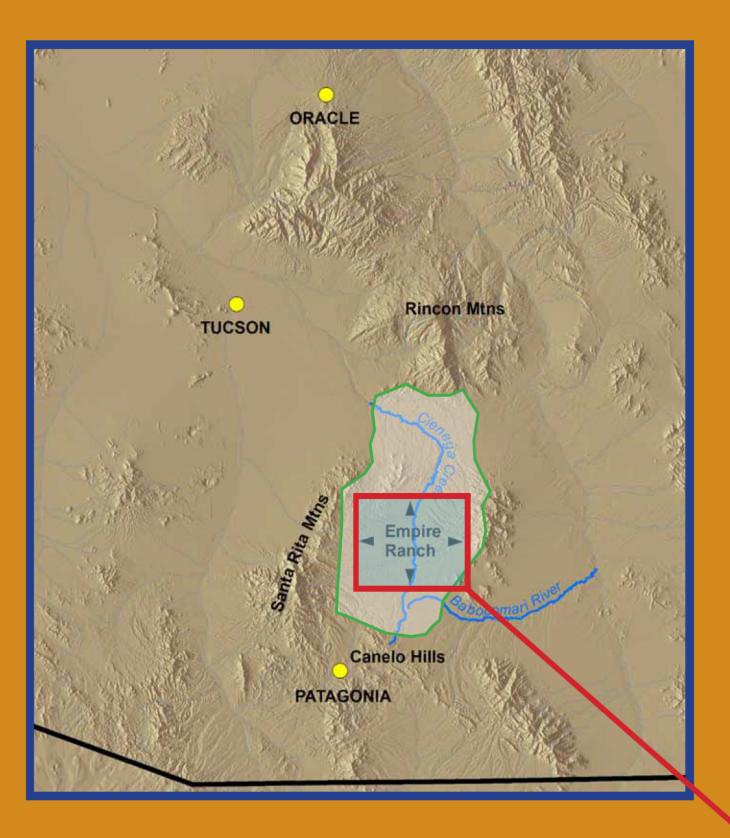
December 30, 2013

Page 12

c: The Honorable Ned Norris, Jr., Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation Jared Blumenfeld, Region IX Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency Suzanne Shields, Director, Pima County Regional Flood Control District Julia Fonseca, Environmental Planning Manager, Pima County Office of Conservation and Sustainability

ATTACHMENT

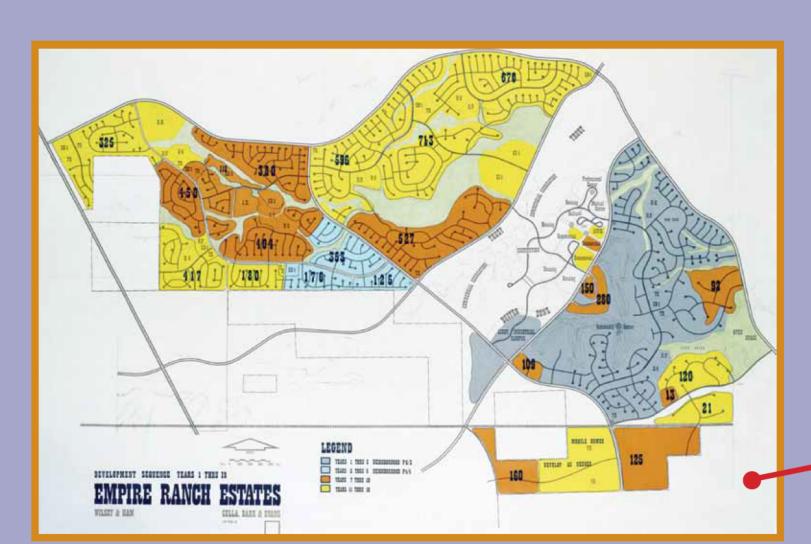
Re-assembling the Empire Ranch



On eo eof he retrn h sin o ten Arona he mpre an h s e c ed r m he i con M un a n s uth o he dge fheCnloHlnerSnia aprxma ee tn ou in dat f) This a di hom to rogorn neo ea dhu ded of terpce of sh ndwdie Prsoth Empr Rachwre odoffeinngnteery2thetryDrngheteraf f he e tu y ffo t be an ocneve a chadun er ub c wnrhp Thsp setls smlpat ftahsoy

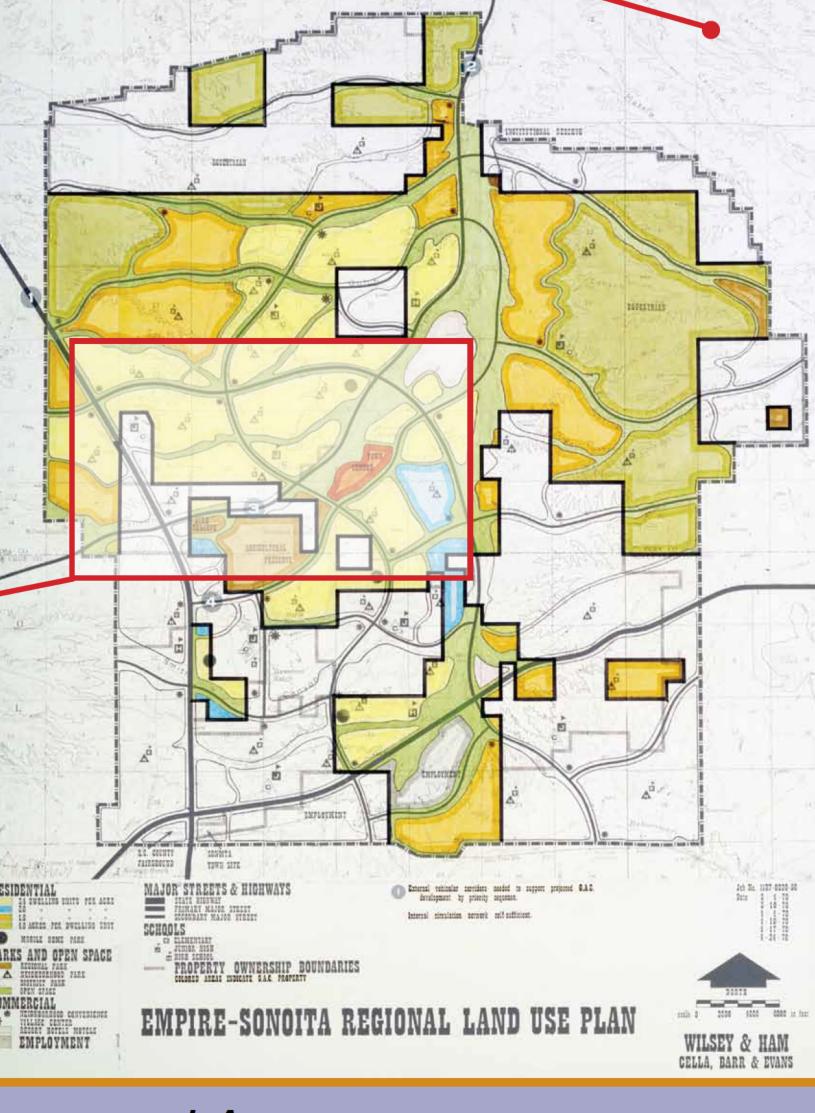
GULF AMERICA BU S EMPIRE RANCH

n 1 69 Guf meia Crorin (GA) bug t he Emie Rnh The aly 90s he lnigfr he rain of stlt ct of 80 000 epente S no a V le wa wel nd rw y



n une 97 th Emp e Ra ch I n wa h a d by he P ma C un y P nn ng nd Z n ng C mmi i n Ovrl Opope perdto rtstepan

The P ma C un y B a d o Su e v s r a p ov d apronotepan eurng GC o ub an aly dvlp530arsbfran adionleoig wo l be on de ed



n h A

ANAMAX BU SEMP RE RANCH

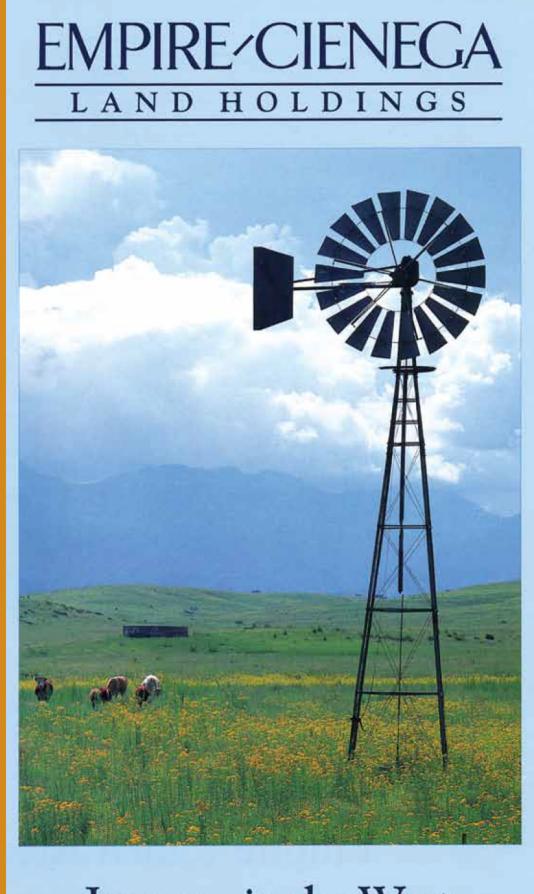


y he al 19 0s G l Amrc Copo a onws a ngn meo s fi an al adohrpolms npato ut sossGAC dcddoslhe 5000 ce Em i e R n h to nam x M n ng C mp ny n 1 74 or v r \$ 2 mi on

nam x b u ht h r nc f r ts a e r g t to e e op he o em nt M ne Ho evrntemd 190s tuthrnhup or a e The an wa ade ied a an netm n frd v oprs ome fhe sspom t dwr rnc e es nd nv tm nt acst be eod oscndrivsos nddv oprs

GCb iR

T me ine



Invest...in the West.

PIMA COUNT INTERESTED IN OPEN SPACE

ima C u ty e ame n e e ed n b y ng he a ch fra aual pnsaecrior ewen Oal and he Caeo Hls twa a o co credwh flod ng sus s Cen ga rek ows no he uc on a n C ne a C e k a ocot buent rlehag to ucosa ufr

n 186 Pma Conyaurdlndlng owr Cengarekhthdbenatote Empe Rach in h 18 0s n A gu t 987 ima ou ty n e ed n arem nt ih An ma to ur h s 8550 ar s of a dto al ndwt bo dmon y a dflodcn r lun s Poet ao e rom he se fflod on olm ny The arem nt ltrugh

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF PIMA COUNTY, AZ.

Marana council plans protest of county's plan to buy ranch land

i R N i 1C

From Staff and Wire Reports

flood control measures in Marana before purchase everything he can to stop the land purchase unl

f E i i

BLM ACQU RES EMPIRE RANCH IN LAND TRADE



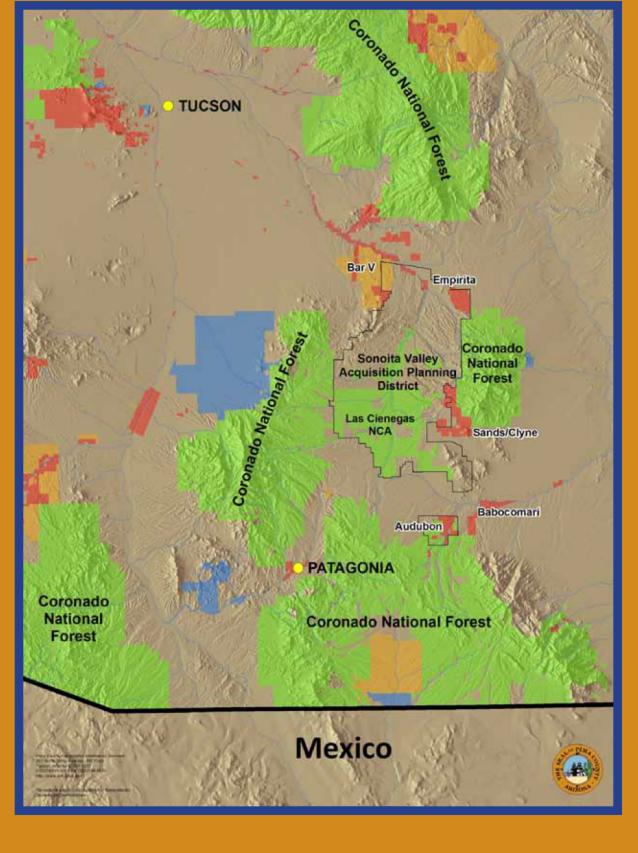
rz na Cogesoa de gaon P ma Conyadohrs prahedh Bueuofad Ma a em nt BLM) b ut c u r ng he nd On Ma ch 4 19 8 t e BLM s ned f rm l arem naquigtelnd nahee wyad ecage P bic nd in u son 8 acs) nd Ponx(1000 ce) eeta edo he rv te nv trs novd ntetae ot at he mpre R nc co ld epe red

B M ube unly curdadto alnd nd Coges eint da Na on l Cnevton ra wth rvins orn uin of a eln s

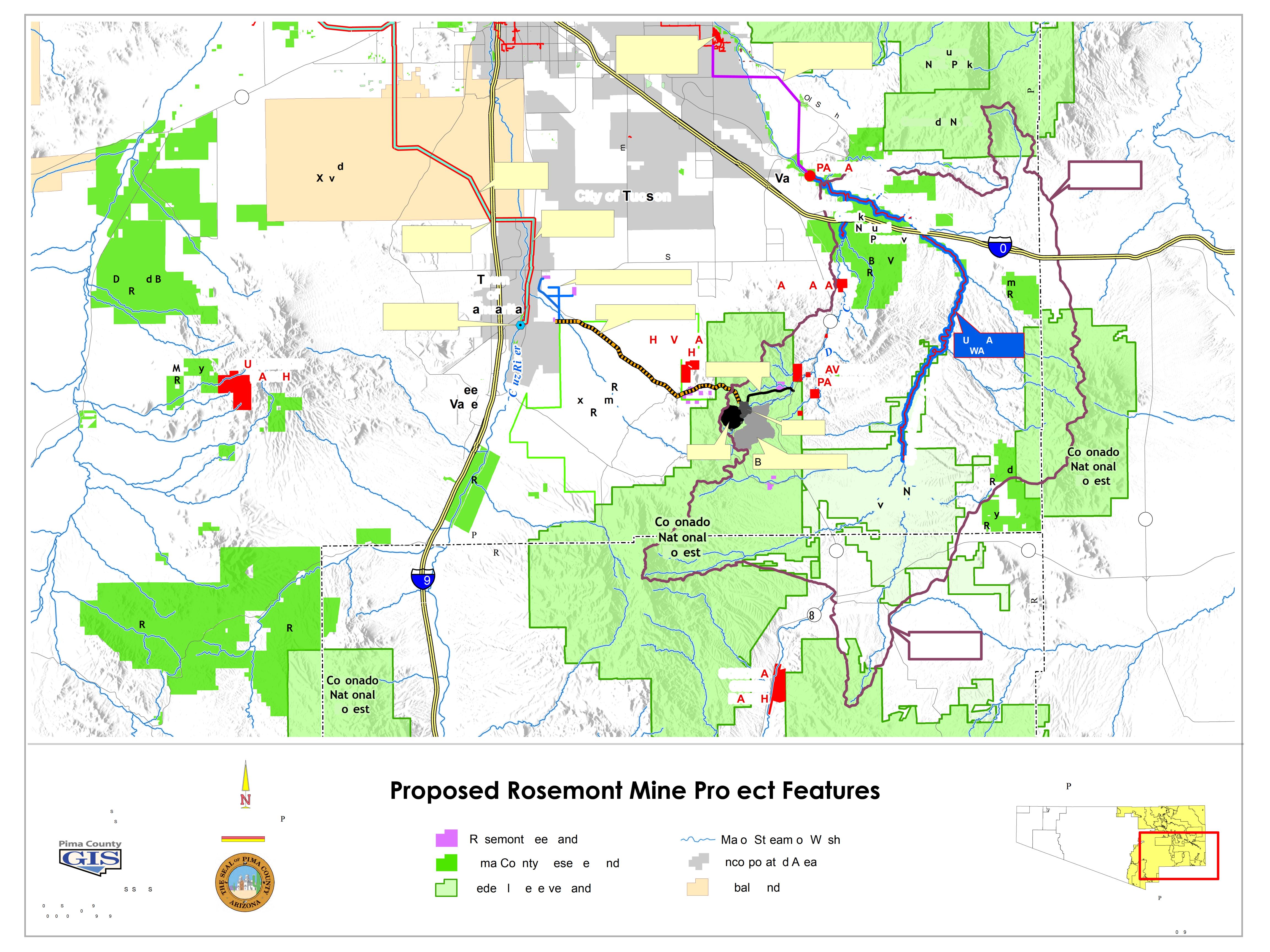
ADD TIONAL LANDS PROTECTED

im Coutsvinfrnec nn ced nejrdcinl pnsaepoeton as ome oeroelywth 004 ond udng The udngwsudto cure he ar VRnh l ne R n h nd o ton of h Sa ds nd mprt r nc es ou ty a ch a ds r s own n r d a d o a ge w h n and da e t o t e Cogesoaydsgaed Soot Vaey cq ston lnig Dirct bako tne)

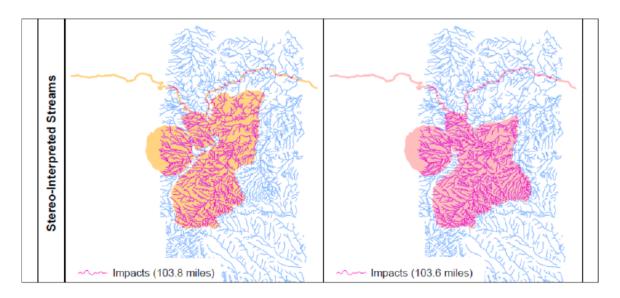
nadt n The Ntre Cnevnybokrdma yo te o srainesme tonp v tendnar a Cings aem ns sh wn nr d) e now e d by a om i a i n of ue u of and M n g ment rz na L nd nd W t r T u t ud bon nd The N t re C n e v n y



ATTACHMENT 2



ATTACHMENT 3



Mine Plan of Operation (MPO) in orange at left, Preferred (Barrel) Alternative in pink at right. Mine access road is shown as part of the footprint for both. Figure provided by Pima County IT.

Delineation of stream centerlines based on stereo-photographs suggests that many headwaters streams were not analyzed in the Application, nor delineated by WestLand Resources as potentially jurisdictional. Over 100 miles of streams would be directly affected by the Mine Plan of Operations, (shown at left). An equal number of stream-miles would be affected by the Forest's Preferred Alternative (Barrel), shown at right. By contrast, Westland's preliminary JD predicted only 36 channel miles of impact from the MPO and 34 channel miles of impact from the Barrel alternative.

The permit application also appears to greatly underestimate the widths of WOUS. An estimate of the area of Waters of the US (Waters) based on the limits of the 10-yr floodplains yielded 116 acres which is approximately three times larger than the 38.6 acre estimate provided in the permit application. In Pima County, the limits of the 10-yr floodplain are often used as an approximation for the limits of the ordinary high water mark. The analysis described in Appendix D of our comments shows that this criterion results in much higher acreage than those in the permit application and DEIS. Furthermore, the analysis in Appendix D did not estimate 10-yr floodplain areas for the tributary watersheds mentioned above, so the area of the 10-yr floodplains is actually greater than the 116 acres calculated.

In addition to the lack of documentation on the establishment of jurisdictional limits to determine impacts to Waters, these are preliminary JDs. As such, for the purposes of computation of impacts, compensatory mitigation requirements, and other resource protection measures, a permit decision made on the basis of a preliminary JD will treat all waters and wetlands that would be affected in any way by the permitted activity on the site as if they are jurisdictional waters of the U.S.

In general, Regulatory Guidance Letter 08-02, states that an approved JDs should be used to support individual permit application. We requested that the Corps develop and use approved JDs. This is warranted because of the scope of the proposed mining operation and environmental impacts and the likelihood that the Application grossly underestimates potential impacts to Waters.

From: <u>Greczmiel, Horst</u>

To: <u>Castanon, David J SPL; Cal Joyner (cjoyner@fs.fed.us); Jim Upchurch (jupchurch01@fs.fed.us); Ryerson.Teddy</u>

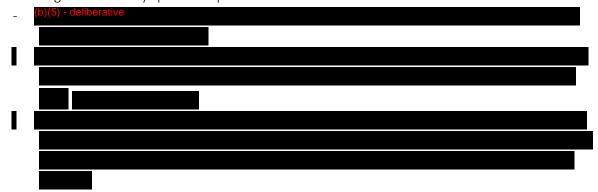
Cc: Blumenfeld, Jared; Kopocis, Ken; Dave Sire (david_sire@ios.doi.gov)

Subject: Rosemont AZ Meetings Schedule

Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:10:24 PM

Good afternoon,

Although it is an on-going process, Monday is fast approaching so I urge you to keep me in the loop on meeting schedule. My specific requests are:



Thank you all, Horst

Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality



From: Greczmiel, Horst
To: Goforth, Kathleen
Subject: Rosemont

Date: Friday, January 17, 2014 10:00:01 AM

Kathy,

Can you, water, and any (trying to keep it small) others join me for a brief conversation today at 3pm eastern today? I appreciate that not all may be available – Jared is not needed for this call. No worries if not all the "right" people from your perspective are available, 105(6) - del berative

Thank you, Horst Horst Greczmiel Associate Director for NEPA Oversight Council on Environmental Quality

